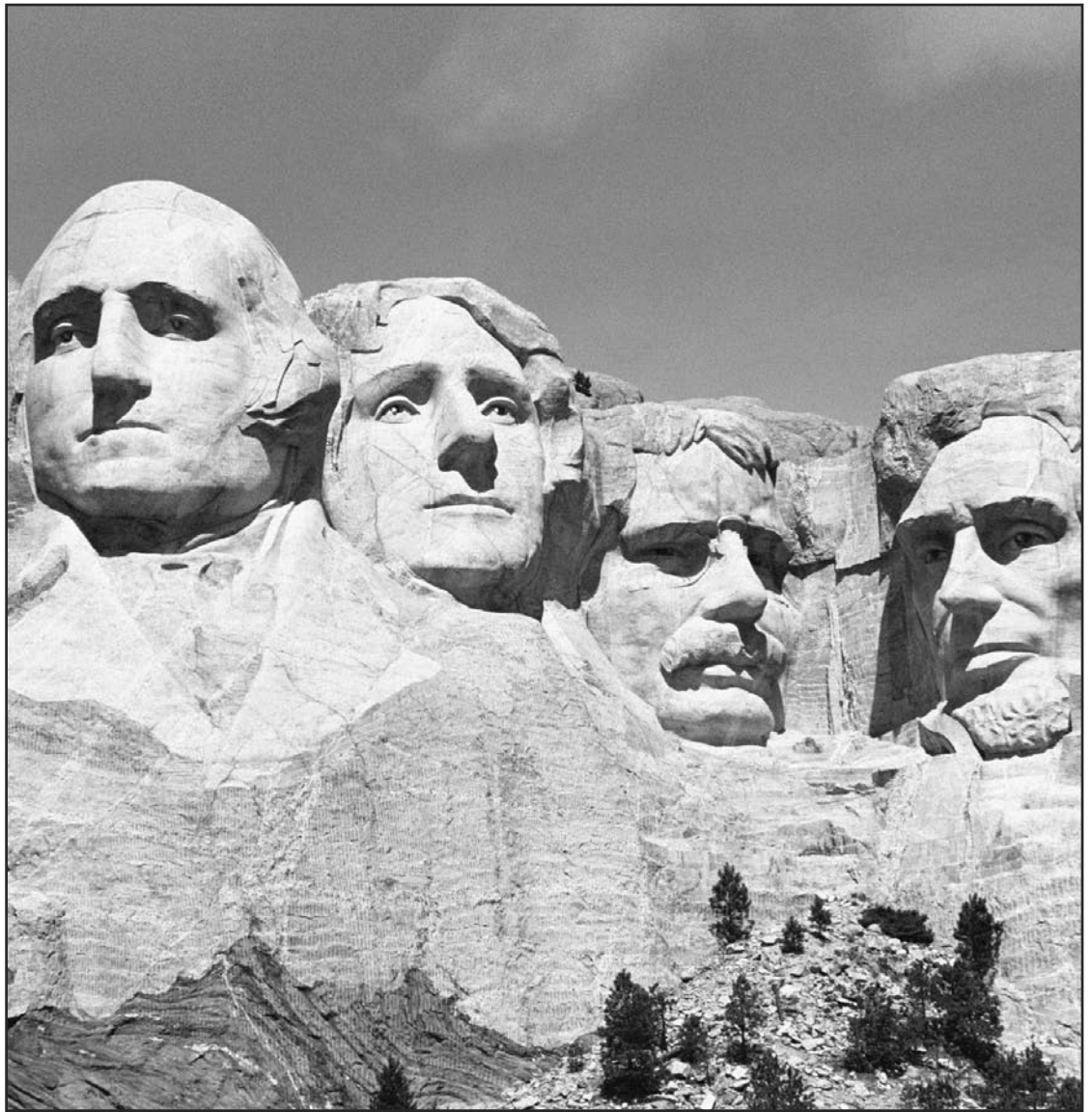


GRADE LEVEL CONTENT EXPECTATIONS



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Development Process Update
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Update on the Development Process of Grade Level Content Expectations For Social Studies

The following pages are designed to trace the Development of Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE) for Social Studies. On page three (3) you will find a graphic organizer of the developmental process and on pages four (4) and five (5) you will find a narrative of the process.

As the GLCE are derived from the Curriculum Framework, both the organizer and narrative begin with phase I—the 1994 convening of the original Social Studies Task Force by the Michigan Council for the Social Studies which led to the development of the Social Studies Curriculum Framework. The narrative and organizer trace the process to the convening of the Content Organization Review Committee in January 2006 by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Office of School Improvement (OSI) following the State Board requested national review of the draft GLCE. Since the national review and the comments from the State Board of Education (SBE) dealt with the subject of content specificity, MDE decided to work through the Michigan content organizations for this phase of the work.

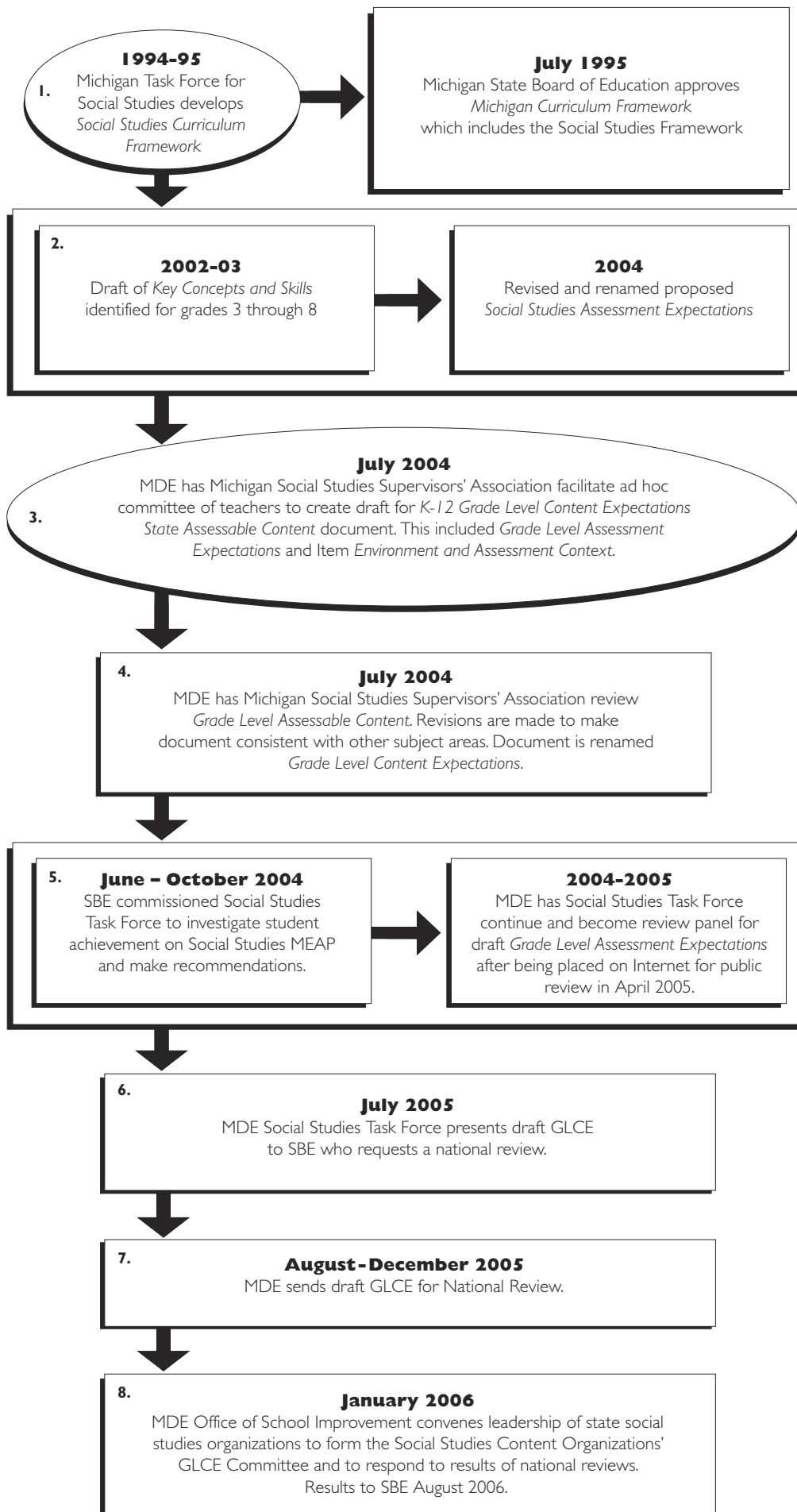
The Content Organizations that comprise this committee are:

- **Michigan Council for History Education**
- **Michigan Geographic Alliance**
- **Michigan Center for Civic Education**
- **Michigan Council for Economic Education**
- **Michigan Council for the Social Studies**

University experts as well as those in content pedagogy from these organizations are represented on the committee. These organizations will involve their membership in the revision process as agreed upon by the revision committee.

The Office of School Improvement will participate and coordinate the work of this committee. State Board of Education members have been invited to attend and participate in the review process.

It is expected the Grade Level Content Expectations will be presented to the State Board of Education for approval in August 2006.



Update on the Development Process of Grade Level Content Expectations (GLCE) for Social Studies

1. The original Michigan Task Force for Social Studies (1994-95) developed the *Social Studies Curriculum Framework*. The Content Standards were approved by the State Board of Education in July 1995. This document was aligned to national standards in the content areas and complies with PA335 of 1994. It should be noted that after the approval of the Curriculum Framework in 1995, in the years that followed, the Task Force continued to work with MDE in the development of *A Blueprint for Assessment for the Social Studies MEAP Tests* and extensive work was conducted statewide as districts began the alignment of their social studies curricula to the Social Studies Framework. The Michigan Standards and Benchmarks are the basis for the GLCE.

The Task Force was convened by the Michigan Council for the Social Studies and co-chaired by Dr. Joseph Stoltman and Dr. Michael Yocum. The following groups were represented on the Task Force: Local District Social Studies Coordinators, Michigan Association of Economics Education, Michigan Center for Civic Education Through Law, Michigan Council for the Social Studies, Michigan Department of Education, Michigan Geographic Alliance, National Council for History Education, Michigan Council for History Education, National Institute for Consumer Education, National Social Studies Supervisors Association, Social Science Education Consortium, and University Representatives. The Task Force was carefully constructed to represent urban and rural districts as well as geographic areas of the state. The Task Force developed draft Social Studies Standards and Benchmarks. Referent groups of teachers at elementary, middle, and high school from around the state were included indirectly to provide input as the Task Force worked. The draft of the Standards and Benchmarks was reviewed around the state at public meetings. After the review, minor adjustments were made to address comments received.

MDE Precursor Projects to GLCE

2. **2002-2003:** Draft *Key Concepts and Skills* were identified for grades 3-8. This work was renamed and revised in 2004 to become *Proposed Social Studies Assessment Expectations*. Both these drafts appeared on the MDE web site for review purposes only. This work was later to be used in developing GLCE.
3. **July 2004:** Draft *Grade Level Content Expectations State Assessable Content* were developed based upon information in step 2 for grades 3-8; MI Social Studies Supervisor's Association (MSSSA) project was used as a foundation for grades K-2; while high school began directly using the benchmarks to develop Content Expectations as no earlier work had been completed. *Grade Level Assessment Expectations* (later referred to as GLCE) and *Item Environment and Assessment Context* specific examples (later referred to as Essential Content) were developed. MSSSA members facilitated the four committees (early, later, middle, and senior high) working with teachers who volunteered. These drafts were on the MDE web site for review only. It is important to note that this work was designed to identify those benchmarks that could be assessed by a MEAP selected response format. *The Grade Level Assessment Expectations* portion of this summer project became what is now referred to as GLCE and would move to MSSSA and the State Board of Education (SBE) appointed 2004 Task Force for further development.

MDE GLCE Label and Format Established

- 4. Fall 2004:** MI Social Studies Supervisor's Association (MSSSA) reviews draft GLCE (portion of the 2004 summer work formerly called *State Assessment Expectations*). Revisions made to content and format were made for consistency with MDE Mathematics and English Language Arts. This revised draft version was referred to as *Grade Level Content Expectations*. This draft was sent to the SBE Task Force, meeting concurrently, for review.
- 5. June 2004:** State Board of Education (SBE) commissioned a Social Studies Task Force to investigate student achievement on the Social Studies MEAP and to make recommendations for improving achievement to the SBE. The Task Force reported its recommendations to SBE at the October 2004 meeting. MDE uses the Task Force for further work on the draft GLCE. Using a revised version on the GLCE (MSSSA version), the Task Force continues to meet in 2004–2005 and becomes a review panel for draft GLCE. Revisions are made to the draft GLCE for review by the State Board of Education.

The Task Force was co-chaired by Dr. Joseph Stoltman and Representative Doug Hart. The membership was comprised of classroom teachers, ISD staff, content organizations, parents, SBE current and former members, and state organizations.

- 6. July 2005:** Task Force/MDE presents the draft GLCE to the State Board of Education. The SBE requests the draft be sent out for a national review. Also of import is that in January 2005, PA 593 mandated the Michigan Merit Examination (MME) replace the high school MEAP and that the MME for social studies should include content in the test of United States History, World History, World Geography, Economics and American Government. This would impact further GLCE work to include world history. A special committee will work to address world history.

- 7. August-December 2005:** Following direction from the State Board of Education, the completed Task Force/MDE draft GLCE is sent out for national review by John J. Patrick, Professor Emeritus of Education of Indiana University. Further review was recommended and completed by:

David Rutherford, Education Policy Specialist, National Geographic Society
Dr. Harlan R. Day, Executive Director, Indiana Council for Economic Education

- 8. January 2006:** MDE Office of School Improvement convenes a smaller scholarly group to review and make necessary revisions of the draft GLCE based upon the recommendations from the national reviews. This group, the Social Studies Content Organization's GLCE Committee, is comprised of experts in the content areas and will draw upon the expertise of the Task Force and follow through on recommendations from the national reviews which called for more specificity in the GLCE. The Social Studies content organizations include the Michigan Council for Economic Education, the Michigan Council for History Education, the Michigan Center for Civic Education, the Michigan Geographic Alliance, and the Michigan Council for the Social Studies, the majority of whom were members of the 2004 Social Studies Task Force. The committee is chaired by Dr. Joseph Stoltman. Members of the State Board of Education were invited to join the committee and have been actively involved.

Once the revisions have been made by the Content Organizations Committee, the draft GLCE will follow the Office of School Improvement Curriculum Protocol of a small group review. This review will be completed by a group of teachers, intermediate school district educators, parents, and other members of the community.

The completed GLCE are expected to be presented to the State Board of Education for approval in August of 2006.